



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY STATE SENATE

April 20, 2022

The Honorable James Comer
United States House of Representatives
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Comer:

Please accept this letter of support for the Henderson County Community College (HCCC) as it plans to construct an eight-workstation universal robotics lab and training facility for electric and mechanical controls. HCCC has secured funding from the Henderson County Fiscal Court for the remainder of the project.

The equipment will be utilized by the college's Industrial Maintenance Technology program, its Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education apprenticeship program, and local and regional employers' students who are enrolled in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System's TRAINS program for upskilling. The training facility will provide added skills needed by local and regional industries.

I believe this to be a worthwhile endeavor, as there are a number of industries facing changes in the workplace and new innovations each day. Many industries are looking to move to our part of the state or reinvest in their present operations. I welcome the opportunity to work with the Henderson County Community College on many more projects such as this.

Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me about this or other issues. Feel free to call me on my cell phone at 270-724-9981 any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert M. 'Robby' Mills".

Robert M. "Robby" Mills
State Senator
District 4

RMM/pjd



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

COURTHOUSE
20 North Main Street, Suite 300
Henderson, Kentucky 42420
PHONE (270) 826-3971
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KURT WIESEN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
FISCAL COURT CLERK

ANGELA COMER
HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST

BRAD SCHNEIDER
HENDERSON COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE
bschneider@hendersonky.us

April 27, 2022

The Honorable James Comer
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1701

Representative Comer,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the **Community Project Funding Request – Henderson Community College (HCC) Advanced Manufacturing Center Lab Capacity Expansion** that will enhance local workforce development. I represent Henderson County Fiscal Court in Henderson County, Kentucky. The requested grant funds will support efforts to significantly increase HCC's Advanced Manufacturing Center Labs capacity. The expanded labs will help address area skilled talent pipeline needs.

Our local manufacturerers benefit tremendously from the HCC graduates who earn the Associate of Applied Science Degree – Industrial Maintenance Technician, Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) Track, as well as the embedded Industrial Maintenance Electrical Mechanic and Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Level I certificates. Local industries currently employ numerous students from the HCCFAME Program, and they are looking to hire more students from HCC in the future.

Our local manufacturers have also utilized KCTCS-TRAINS funds through partnership with HCC to upgrade the skills of existing employees. Numerous workers have participated in customized training made possible by the KCTCS-TRAINS program. Access to state-of-the-art equipment is essential for the community college to provide relevant skills-upgrade opportunities that allow our local employers to remain competitive in the marketplace.

The goal of this project is to double the capacity of HCC's Advanced Manufacturing Center Lab to meet the demands of local manufacturers and to increase the skilled talent pipeline. The current labs include Amatrol trainers, specializing in PLCs, motor controls, electrical and mechanical (including fluid power-hydraulics/pneumatics). These trainers are highly valued by existing local industry partners and the existence of state-of-the-art equipment serves an important role in attracting new manufacturers to our community.



The College's Advanced Manufacturing Center Lab supports three functions: (1) the HCC FAME apprenticeship-style work-and-learn program that develops industrial maintenance technicians, (2) the traditional Industrial Maintenance Technology (IMT) Associate in Applied Science degree program that contains numerous embedded short-term, industry-relevant certificates, and (3) customized industry training to upgrade the skills of existing employees using KCTCS-TRAINS funding.

The Community Project Funding would help would expand the Advanced Manufacturing Center to eight (8) trainers per lab and allow for the addition of an 8-workstation Robotics Lab. HCC began the year with four (4) trainers per lab. A financial investment of \$500,000 in support of workforce development by the Henderson Fiscal Court, helped expand the Advanced Manufacturing Center to six (6) trainers per lab. The Fiscal Court's contribution demonstrates significant local support for this project and its value to local workforce development efforts.

The project will provide HCC's Industrial Maintenance Technician (IMT) Program the ability to increase the size of its lab with updated equipment and technology that is currently being utilized in the local industry. Some of the equipment the college currently utilizes is outdated and the limited number of workstations hampers the institution from reaching maximum program capacity. Additional trainers will reduce the need for students to "double-up" on equipment and enhance the quality of instruction and improve the overall student experience.

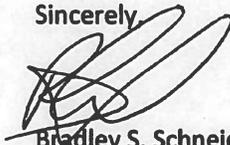
It is critical that we increase the talent pipeline in our region, and additional funding would contribute significantly to this goal. The Community Project Funding will give the IMT Program the ability to provide a quality training facility in which students learn the techniques and skills being used in our local industry and give students a reason to stay in our county to work and live. The expansion of the labs will help HCC better respond to the needs of both existing industry and new manufacturers such as Pratt Industries which is locating near the campus.

Thank you for your consideration of Henderson Community College as a potential recipient for funding. We maintain an excellent, cooperative relationship with the faculty, staff, and administrators at HCC. The collaboration is further solidified by an active, local HCC chapter of the Kentucky Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (KY FAME) which is industry-led. The FAME chapter was established to serve as a catalyst for developing world-class technical talent for manufacturing. It meets regularly and guides continuous program improvement.

We all care about HCC students and want to provide them the same opportunities and resources as larger area technology centers and communities can offer. We want our local students to be able to maximize their future careers in our local industries.

Thank you for your support as we work together to address the skill talent pipeline needs in our community.

Sincerely,



Bradley S. Schneider
Henderson County Judge/Executive

Steve Austin, Mayor

Commissioners:
Robert N. Pruitt
Bradley S. Staton
Rodney Thomas
Austin P. Vowels



The City of Henderson

P.O. Box 716
Henderson, Kentucky 42419-0716

William L. "Buzzy" Newman, Jr., City Manager
Dawn S. Kelsey, City Attorney
Maree Collins, City Clerk
Donna Stinnett, Public Information Officer/Community Relations Manager



April 27, 2022

The Honorable James Comer
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1701

Representative Comer:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support on behalf of the city of Henderson for the **Community Project Funding Request – Henderson Community College (HCC) Advanced Manufacturing Center Lab Capacity Expansion**. The expanded labs will help address area skilled talent pipeline needs.

The requested funds will support efforts to significantly increase HCC's Advanced Manufacturing Center Labs capacity by doubling the capacity of HCC's Advanced Manufacturing Center Lab providing HCC's Industrial Maintenance Technician (IMT) Program the ability to increase the size of its lab with updated equipment and technology that is currently being utilized in the local industry and allowing for the addition of an eight-workstation Robotics Lab to meet the demands of local manufacturers and to increase the skilled talent pipeline.

It is critical that we increase the talent pipeline in our region, and additional funding would contribute significantly to this goal. A \$500,000.00 financial investment in support of workforce development by the Henderson County Fiscal Court demonstrates significant local support for this project and its value to local workforce development efforts.

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Thank you in advance for your consideration of Henderson Community College as a potential recipient for funding and for your support as we work together to address the skilled talent pipeline needs in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Austin".

Steve Austin
Mayor



Commonwealth of Kentucky

House of Representatives

Jonathan Dixon
702 Capital Avenue
Annex Room 413 E
(502) 564-8100



Jonathan.Dixon@lrc.ky.gov
State Message Line:
800-372-7181
11th Legislative District

April 28, 2022

The Honorable James Comer
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1701

Representative Comer,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the **Community Project Funding Request – Henderson Community College (HCC) Advanced Manufacturing Center Lab Capacity Expansion** that will enhance local workforce development. I represent the 11th district of Kentucky in Henderson County, Kentucky. The requested grant funds will support efforts to significantly increase HCC's Advanced Manufacturing Center Labs capacity. The expanded labs will help address area skilled talent pipeline needs.

Our local manufacturerers benefit tremendously from the HCC graduates who earn the Associate of Applied Science Degree – Industrial Maintenance Technician, Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) Track, as well as the embedded Industrial Maintenance Electrical Mechanic and Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Level I certificates. Local industries currently employ numerous students from the HCCFAME Program, and they are looking to hire more students from HCC in the future.

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Thank you for your support as we work together to address the skill talent pipeline needs in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Dixon', with a large, stylized loop at the beginning.

Jonathan Dixon
State Representative
11th District

